**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Original) A medium access control identification code (MAC_ID) assigned by a base station from a MAC_ID space to each one of a plurality of mobile stations; wherein the MAC_ID is assigned in an ascending order from the MAC_ID space for a first group of mobile stations, and wherein the MAC_ID is assigned in a descending order from the MAC_ID space for a second group of mobile stations.

2. (Original) A medium access control identification code as in claim 1, wherein the first group of mobile stations use a forward link channel.

3. (Original) A medium access control identification code as in claim 1, wherein the second group of mobile stations use a reverse link channel.

4. (Original) A medium access control identification code as in claim 1, wherein the MAC_ID is assigned in at least one of a forward link allocation channel and a reverse link allocation channel for user traffic identification.

5. (Currently Amended) A method for transition from a reverse link Control Hold Mode for a cellular communications system comprising a base station in communication with a mobile station, wherein a reverse link data channel is in operation without an assigned Forward Packet Data Channel, the method comprising:

initiating a transition by the mobile station from the Control Hold Mode to an active state, by sending a transition mode request to the base station;

turning on a rate request channel by the mobile station, the mobile station requesting a reverse link transmission;

monitoring a rate grant channel with the mobile station;

acknowledging the reception of the ~~mode~~ transition mode request by sending an individual grant to the mobile station from the base station, thereby granting permission to transmit;

transitioning the mobile station to the active state upon receipt of the grant, the mobile station starting to transmit on the reverse link data channel in autonomous mode; and,

commencing monitoring of a Forward Acknowledgement Channel with the mobile station.

6. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 5, wherein initiating a transition by the mobile station from the active state to the Control Hold Mode comprises:

gating a reverse pilot and a reverse rate request channel by the mobile station;

detecting the transition by the base station;

stopping ~~the~~ transmission on the Forward Acknowledgement Channel by the base station;

stopping ~~the~~ monitoring of the reverse link by the base station; and

transitioning the mobile station to the Control Hold Mode.

7. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 6, wherein the base station controls the transition from the active state to the Control Hold Mode when the Forward Packet Data Channel is assigned.

8. (Original) A method as in claim 5, wherein a reverse rate request channel is gated at a reduced rate of one half or less.

9. (Original) A method as in claim 5, wherein the rate of the grant channel is reduced to reduce the mobile station power consumption.

10. (Currently) A method for transition from a reverse link Control Hold Mode for a cellular communications system comprising a base station in communication with a mobile station,

wherein a reverse link data channel is in operation without an assigned Forward Packet Data Channel, the method comprising:

initiating a transition by the base station from the Control Hold Mode to an active state by sending a transition mode request to the mobile station;

sending an individual grant via a forward grant channel to the mobile station to initiate the mode transition; and

transitioning the mobile station to the active state.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for transition from a reverse link Control Hold Mode for a cellular communications system comprising a base station in communication with a mobile station, wherein a reverse link data channel is in operation with an assigned Forward Packet Data Channel, the method comprising:

initiating a transition by the mobile station from the Control Hold Mode to an active state, by sending a transition mode request to the base station;

sending an acknowledgement on ~~the~~ a reverse acknowledgement channel by the mobile station;

turning on a rate request channel by the mobile station, the mobile station requesting a reverse link transmission;

commencing ~~the~~ monitoring of a rate grant channel and a Forward Acknowledgement Channel with the mobile station;

acknowledging the reception of the ~~mode~~ transition mode request by sending an individual grant to the mobile station from the base station, thereby granting permission to transmit;

commencing continuous transmission by the mobile station on a reverse channel quality indication channel;

turning on a reverse acknowledgement channel;

commencing monitoring of ~~the~~ a Forward Packet Data Control Channel; and,

transitioning the mobile station to the active state upon receipt of a control message with specific message type, the mobile station starting to transmit autonomous rate on the reverse link data channel.

12. (Original) A method as in claim 11, wherein the reverse channel quality indication channel is gated at a reduced rate of one half or less.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for transition from a reverse link Control Hold Mode for a cellular communications system comprising a base station in communication with a mobile station, wherein a reverse link data channel is in operation with an assigned Forward Packet Data Channel, the method comprising:

initiating a transition by the base station from the Control Hold Mode to an active state by sending a transition mode request to the mobile station;

setting an extended message type identifier indicating that the mobile station is to exit the ~~packet data channel~~ Control Hold Mode;

initiating the mode transition by sending a medium access control identification code by the ~~granting~~ base station via a Forward Packet Data Control Channel to the mobile station;

turning on a Reverse Channel Quality Indication Channel and a Reverse Acknowledgement Channel by the mobile station;

monitoring the Forward Packet Data Control Channel; and

transitioning the mobile station to the active state.